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FLEXIBLE TUBE OF ENDOSCOPE

Patent number: JP10024012
Publication date: 1998-01-27
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Classification:
- international: **A61B1/00; G02B23/24; A61B1/00; G02B23/24; (IPC1-7): A61B1/00; G02B23/24**
- european:
Application number: JP19960181782 19960711
Priority number(s): JP19960181782 19960711

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Abstract of JP10024012

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To make a flexible tube lighter, to enhance its controllability during insertion, etc., and to make it easy to check an index during fluoroscopy by forming a netted tube from fine wires made of carbon fibers, the netted tube covering the outer periphery of a spiral tube and formed into a circular shape by braiding of the fine wires. **SOLUTION:** A flexible tube 10 exterior-packages the portion of an endoscope which is inserted into a body cavity, and a curving part connected to the end of the flexible tube 10 is remotely controlled by operation of a control part connected to the proximal end of the flexible tube 10. The flexible tube 10 is formed of a spiral tube 11 obtained when a strip member made of reinforced plastic such as glass fiber reinforced plastic is wound into a spiral shape with a certain diameter, and the spiral tube 11 is covered on its outer periphery with a netted tube (blade) 12 formed into a circular shape by braiding of fine wires; in this case, carbon fibers are used for the fine wires. The netted tube 12 is covered on its outer periphery with a jacket member 13 constructed of a tube made of a resin with a fluoroscopic index such as lead plate formed on the circumference of its inner peripheral surface part.

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